

November 30, 2006

Dear Interested Party:

The Maine Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands is in the process of revising a management plan for public lands in the northern Aroostook County region. In preparation for development of the plan, the Bureau will conduct a "Scoping/Listening Session" on Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, in town council chambers at the Fort Kent Town Office, 416 West Main Street, Fort Kent, Maine, and beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The purpose of this Session will be to hear comments, concerns, and issues from the general public regarding the present and future management of Bureau lands within this region, including the Deboullie, Eagle Lake, and Salmon Brook Lake Bog Units, and scattered public lots in St. John Plantation, Winterville Plantation, New Canada, T17 R4, T16 R9, Cyr Plantation, Caswell, Hamlin, Westmanland, and New Sweden. From 1987-1990, the Bureau adopted 10-year multiple use management plans for the Deboullie and Eagle Lake Units. The regional plan will include revisions to these plans, and provide new information on the other lands within the region.

The Bureau manages its lands in accordance with a published Integrated Resource Policy (IRP). This policy was developed to carry out the Bureau's statutory mandate to manage its lands for multiple uses. The IRP also sets forth guidelines that will be used to determine management recommendations to be adopted in the plan. A copy of the IRP is available on the Bureau of Parks and Lands website at <http://www.maine.gov/doc/parks/>, or can be obtained by contacting John Titus at the Bureau office in Augusta (see contact information below).

Comments received at the Scoping/Listening session will assist Bureau staff in developing the first draft of the Regional Plan. This meeting is the first of several opportunities the general public will have to comment during the planning process. A Northern Aroostook Region Advisory Committee will be selected to assist in plan development, with a Public Meeting for all members of the public to hear comment on the final draft anticipated later this winter.

For more information, contact:

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